

Amendments to the Claims

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1. (Original) An annular seal having a central longitudinal axis and forming a seal between interior and exterior volumes when held under compression between opposed first and second parallel faces of respective first and second flanges, comprising:
 - a metallic first layer; and
 - a metallic second layer, integrated with the first layer, wherein the first layer is cold formable and the second layer has higher resistance to stress relaxation than the first layer under target thermal operating conditions.
2. (Original) The seal of claim 1 wherein the second layer extends continuously between first and second portions positioned for contacting the first and second faces and the first layer extends continuously between first and second portions respectively positioned longitudinally inward of said second layer first and second portions.
3. (Original) The seal of claim 2 wherein the first layer consists essentially of a first nickel-based superalloy and the second layer consists essentially of a second nickel-based superalloy.
4. (Original) The seal of claim 1 having a radial section of bellows-like structure.
5. (Original) The seal of claim 1 wherein only the second layer of the seal is in contact with the exterior volume.
6. (Amended) The seal of claim 1 wherein:
 - each of the first and second layers provides at least 10% of the radial span of a radial section cross-section of the seal along a majority of a length thereof; and
 - each of the first and second layers provides at least 10% of the local longitudinal compressive strength of the seal along a major portion of the length thereof.

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7. (Original) The seal of claim 1 wherein the first layer consists essentially of a nickel- or cobalt-based superalloy.

8. (Original) The seal of claim 7 wherein the target thermal operating conditions comprise a temperature of about 1600°F (871°C) to 2000°F (1093°C).

9. (Original) The seal of claim 1 wherein:
the first layer consists essentially of a first nickel-based superalloy; and
the second layer consists essentially of a cast γ' hardened second nickel-based superalloy.

10.-20. (Canceled)

21. (New) The seal of claim 9 having a creep resistance at 982°C greater than a creep resistance of cold formed seal of like dimensions consisting essentially of the first nickel-based superalloy.

22. (New) An annular seal having a central longitudinal axis and forming a seal between interior and exterior volumes when held under compression between opposed first and second parallel faces of respective first and second flanges, comprising:
a first layer consisting essentially of a cobalt- or nickel-based superalloy; and
a second layer, integrated with the first layer and consisting essentially of a nickel-based superalloy.

23. (New) The seal of claim 22 wherein the second layer has higher resistance to stress relaxation than the first layer at a temperature of 1600°F to 2000°F.

24. (New) The seal of claim 22 wherein the second layer consists essentially of a cast γ' hardened nickel-based superalloy.

25. (New) The seal of claim 22 wherein:

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each of the first and second layers provides at least 10% of the radial span of a radial cross-section of the seal along a majority of a length thereof; and

each of the first and second layers provides at least 10% of the local longitudinal compressive strength of the seal along a major portion of the length thereof.
